

REMARKS

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed August 18, 2008. This paper also constitutes Applicants' Statement of Substance of Interview, resulting from the personal interview of September 15, 2008.

Amendment:

In the Office Action of August 18, 2008, the Examiner entered a non-final rejection of claims 1-4, 7-14, 16-24, and 29-32. Claims 9, 10 and 23 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By amendment herein, claim 9 has been rewritten in independent form, by incorporating its limitations into independent claim 1. Accordingly, claim 9 has been canceled. Claim 10 has been amended to change its dependency from (now-canceled) claim 9 to amended claim 1. Claim 23 has been rewritten in independent form by incorporating its limitations, along with the limitations of dependent claim 18, into independent claim 17. Accordingly, claims 18 and 23 have been canceled. Existing claims 19 and 24-32 have also been canceled.

Statement of Substance of Interview:

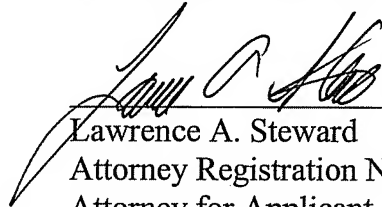
On September 15, 2008, Applicants' representatives Lawrence Steward and Jack Hunt held a personal interview with Patent Examiner Laura Bouchelle the USPTO in Alexandria, VA. During the interview, Applicants' representatives proposed amending independent claims 1 and 17 as described above, in order to place those claims in condition for allowance. The substance of the proposed amendments is provided herein in the Listing of Claims. No exhibits were shown or demonstrations conducted.

Agreement was reached that the proposed incorporation of limitations of claims 9 and 23 into the independent claims places the application in condition for allowance. See, Interview Summary by Examiner Bouchelle dated September 18, 2009.

Conclusion:

Based upon the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10-14, 16, 17, and 20-22 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Lawrence A. Steward

Attorney Registration No. 32,309
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
CUSTOMER NO. 27879
Telephone: 317-636-0886
Facsimile: 317-634-6701